

Congresswoman Debbie Halvorson (IL-11) released the following statement following the announcement that five states have filed suit to shut down local waterway locks:

"I'm deeply disappointed that Michigan and other states have decided to file yet another lawsuit in federal court seeking closure of shipping locks on the Chicago Area Waterway. The Supreme Court has already twice rejected similar lawsuits and the Army Corps of Engineers recently released a report stating that closing locks would not be an effective solution for keeping Asian carp out of the Great Lakes.

Closure of locks would kill jobs, have a devastating effect on our region's economy, and would put the area at risk for flooding. These lawsuits create uncertainty for local businesses, and are a distraction that takes focus away from collaborative efforts to combat Asian carp. We need to focus on solutions, which is why I have called on the Army Corps to expedite completion of a new electric barrier on the waterway and why I support the new proposal to incentivize commercial fishing and export of Asian carp. Working together, we can implement a balanced approach that will protect both the environment and our economy."